

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A ~~process~~ method for the finishing treatment of a fibrous web, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an adhesive composition formed of polymer(s) comprising a combination of optionally partially or completely hydrogenated saccharides is applied to said web, said combination of saccharidees having a glucide spectrum exhibiting:

- a content of monosaccharides and disaccharides of less than or equal to 30%,
- a content of oligosaccharides with degrees of polymerization (DP) of between 3 and 9 of greater than or equal to 30%,
- a content of polysaccharides with a DP at least equal to 10 of less than or equal to 70%,

these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the dry weight of the whole of the combination of saccharides.

2. (currently amended) The ~~process as claimed in~~ method according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the combination of saccharides has a content of monosaccharides and

disaccharides (DP equal to 1 or 2) at most equal to 28%,
~~preferably of between 0.5 and 28%~~.

3. (currently amended) ~~The process as claimed in either of claims method according to claim 1 and 2, characterized in that, wherein~~ the combination of saccharides has a content of oligosaccharides with a DP of between 3 and 9 of between 30 and 70%, ~~preferably between 35 and 60%~~.

4. (currently amended) ~~The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 3, characterized in that, wherein~~ the combination of saccharides has a content of polysaccharides of DP ≥ 10 of between 25 and 70%, ~~preferably between 25 and 65%~~.

5. (currently amended) ~~The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 4, characterized in that, wherein~~ the finishing treatment is carried out in an aqueous medium.

6. (currently amended) ~~The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 5, characterized in that, wherein~~ the fibers constituting the fibrous web are predominantly cellulose fibers.

7. (currently amended) The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 6, characterized in that, wherein the polymer or polymers of the adhesive composition is or are soluble or easily dispersible in water.

8. (currently amended) The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 7, characterized in that, wherein the combination of saccharides is present in the adhesive composition in an amount of between 0.01 and 100%, preferably between 0.1 and 20% and more preferably still between 0.2 and 10%, this amount being expressed as solids content with respect to the dry total adhesive composition.

9. (currently amended) The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 8, characterized in that, wherein the adhesive composition applied has a solids content (SC) of between 0.5 and 75%, preferably between 1 and 50% and more preferably still between 2 and 20%.

10. (currently amended) The process as claimed in any one of claims method according to claim 1 to 9, characterized in that, wherein the finishing treatment consists of a surface treatment, pigmented surface treatment or coating operation.

11. (currently amended) An adhesive composition of use in the finishing treatment of a fibrous web, ~~characterized in that it comprises comprising~~ a combination of optionally partially or completely hydrogenated saccharides exhibiting:

- a content of monosaccharides and disaccharides (DP of 1 or 2) of less than or equal to 30%,
- a content of oligosaccharides with a DP of between 3 and 9 of greater than or equal to 30%,
- a content of polysaccharides with a DP at least equal to 10 of less than 70%,

these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the dry weight of the whole of said combination of saccharides.

12. (currently amended) The adhesive composition as claimed in according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that it has, having~~ a content of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.03% and 14%, these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the dry weight of said composition.

13. (currently amended) An improved fibrous web, ~~characterized in that it has, having a first and a second and on one and/or other of its said faces, a deposited layer of an adhesive composition as claimed in either of according to~~ claim 11 and 12, which may or may not be pigmented, said deposited layer being produced in an amount, expressed as solids content, of

between 0.05 and 15 grams/m² of paper or flat board, ~~preferably of between 0.2 and 10 grams/m².~~

14. (currently amended) The improved fibrous web as claimed in according to claim 13, characterized in that it comprises comprising an amount of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.001 and 20 g/m², ~~preferably of between 0.01 and 5 g/m² and more preferably still of between 0.1 and 1 g/m², or a proportion of these same oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9, with respect to the weight of the paper, of between 0.0001 and 10%.~~

15. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of saccharides has a content of monosaccharides and disaccharides (DP equal to 1 or 2) of between 0.5 and 28%.

16. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of saccharides has a content of oligosaccharides with a DP of between 3 and 9 of between 35 and 60%.

17. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of saccharides has a content of polysaccharides of DP ≥ 10 of between 25 and 65%.

18. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of saccharides is present in the adhesive composition in an amount of between 0.1 and 20%, this amount being expressed

as solids content with respect to the dry total adhesive composition.

19. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of saccharides is present in the adhesive composition in the amount of between 0.2 and 10%, this amount being expressed as solids content with respect to the dry total adhesive composition.

20. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition applied exhibits a solids content (SC) of between 1 and 50%.

21. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition applied exhibits a solids content (SC) of between 2 and 20%.

22. (new) The improved fibrous web according to claim 13, wherein said deposited layer is produced in an amount, expressed as solids content, of between 0.2 and 10 grams/m² of paper or flat board.

23. (new) The improved fibrous web according to claim 13, comprising an amount of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.01 and 5 g/m².

24. (new) The improved fibrous web according to claim 13, comprising an amount of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.1 and 1 g/m².

25. (new) The improved fibrous web according to claim 13 comprising a proportion of oligosaccharides from DP 3 to DP 9 of between 0.0001 and 10%, with respect to the weight of the paper.